

FACT SHEET

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Sustainability at Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women

Operations

- **Green Team:** The Mission Green Team was established to set goals for sustainability. The team meets monthly to educate staff and offenders and to implement sustainable programs.
- Partnerships: Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women collaborates with Correctional Industries, county extension services for composting and master gardener programs, and with college researchers to establish best practices in sustainability.
- **Staff Recognition:** A staff recognition program awards staff who practice and implement processes that benefit the reduction of solid waste and other sustainable programs to reduce, reuse, and recycle.
- Composting: Composting material collection stations are available in all dining, living units and staff areas. At-the-source composting project creates offender jobs, new skills and models environmentally responsible behaviors.
- Family Gardens: A "Mommy and Me Garden" project provides the opportunity for offenders to positively interact with their children during visits as they tend to a vegetable and flower garden. This provides a nurturing, educational, and therapeutic interaction.
- Water Conservation: Gardens and soils are enriched by composting organic materials. There is no irrigation used for gardens, shrubbery or lawns. The facility reclaims water and uses plants that do not require much water.
- Salmon Habitat Restoration: Mission Creek is helping a local nonprofit group with a salmon habitat restoration project. Offender crews work with Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group to remove noxious weeds from a critical salmon habitat.

Facilities

■ **LEED Silver Certified Unit:** Newest living unit, Gold Creek, is rated Silver by the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED-certified building require less water and electricity to operate, use more natural light and require fewer toxic materials to build.

More Information

Visit the Department of Corrections' <u>sustainability website</u> for statewide information.